

REMARKS

Claims 2-4, 6-9 and 11-27 were pending in the current application. Applicant acknowledges with appreciation the allowance of claims 3, 6-9 and 16-20. With this amendment, Applicant cancels claims 2 and 21-27. Thus, with this amendment claims 3, 4, 6-9 and 11-20 are pending in this application.

Claim 4 has been amended to be dependent on claim 3 which the Examiner has indicated to be allowed.

Claims 11-15 has been amended to be dependent on claim 6 which the Examiner has indicated to be allowed.

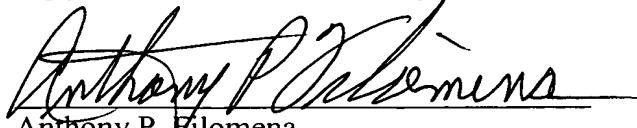
Thus, with this amendment claims 3, 4, 6-9 and 11-20 are pending in the present Application. These claims are believed to be in condition for allowance. Such allowance is respectfully requested.

In the event that there are any questions related to this amendment or to the application in general, the undersigned would appreciate the opportunity to address those questions directly in a telephone interview at 919-861-5092 to expedite the prosecution of this application.

If necessary, Applicant requests that this Amendment be considered a request for an extension of time appropriate for the response to be timely filed. Please charge any fees due, or credit any overpayment, to Bose McKinney & Evans LLP's Deposit Account No. 02-3223.

Respectfully submitted,

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